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Tanzanian Waterpoint Status Prediction

Overview

- Tanzania is a developing country that struggles to provide access to safe drinking water for its 59 million residents.
- Build a predictive model and provide insight on water pump failure
 - 1- 60.000 waterpoints in Tanzania
 - 2- Status of the waterpoints
 - 3- 39 independent variables

Background

- According to WHO, 1 in 6 people in Tanzania lack access to safe drinking water
- 29 million don't have access to improved sanitation
- Women walk 2 to 3 km per day carrying 20-25 liters on their head and sometimes wait hours at the water source

Business Problem

- The Tanzanian government has a severe water crisis on their hands
- They want to predict which pumps are functional, functional but need repairs, and non functional
- Taarifa and Tanzanian Ministry of Water have shared the dataset to aid understanding of pump failure
- I will build model to help the government improve maintenance operations
- And ensure clean drinking water is accessible to communities across tanzania

Business Problem cont

- Precision is our main metric of model selection
- A non functional well being prediction as a functional well is worse than the opposite case

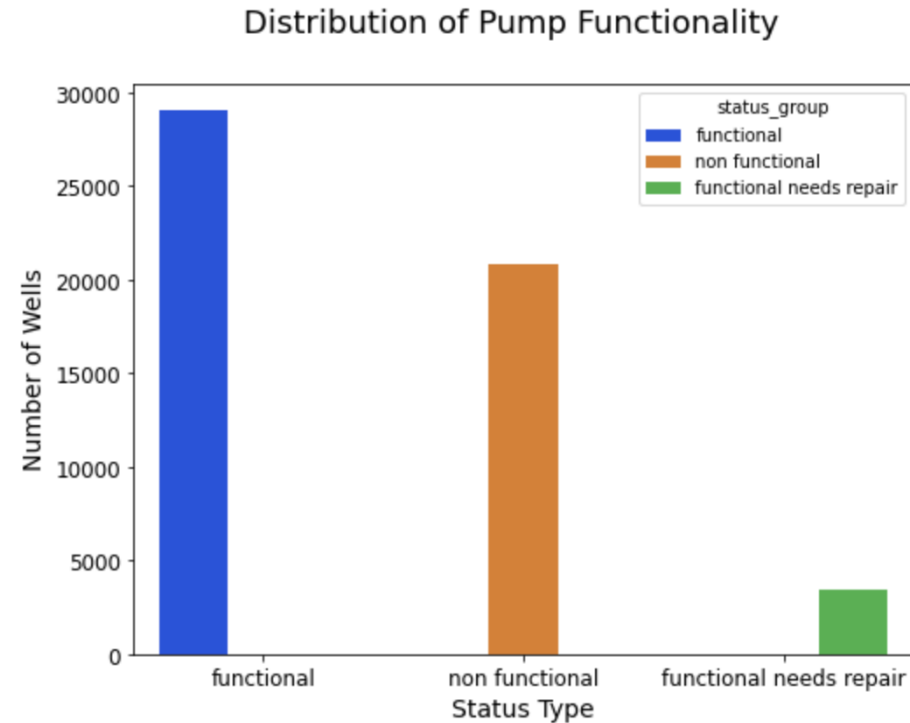
Data

- Dataset contains information on 60.000 waterpoints in Tanzania
- 39 independent variables
- Pump Status
 - Functional
 - Functional needs repair
 - Non functional
- Available for download on DrivenData

<https://www.drivendata.org/competitions/7/pump-it-up-data-mining-the-water-table/page/23/>

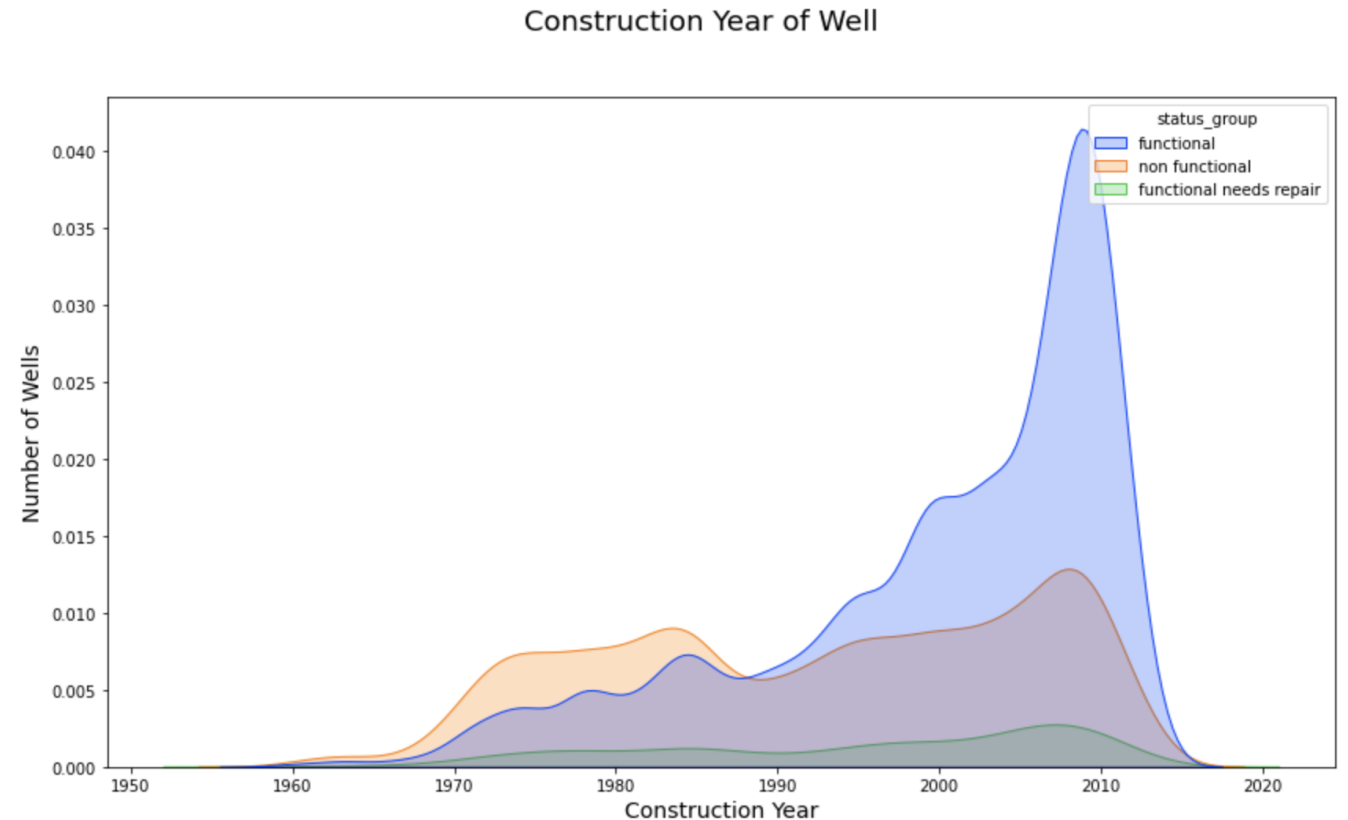
Distribution of Waterpoints

- 29,000 functional
- 21,000 non functional
- 3,500 functional needs repairs

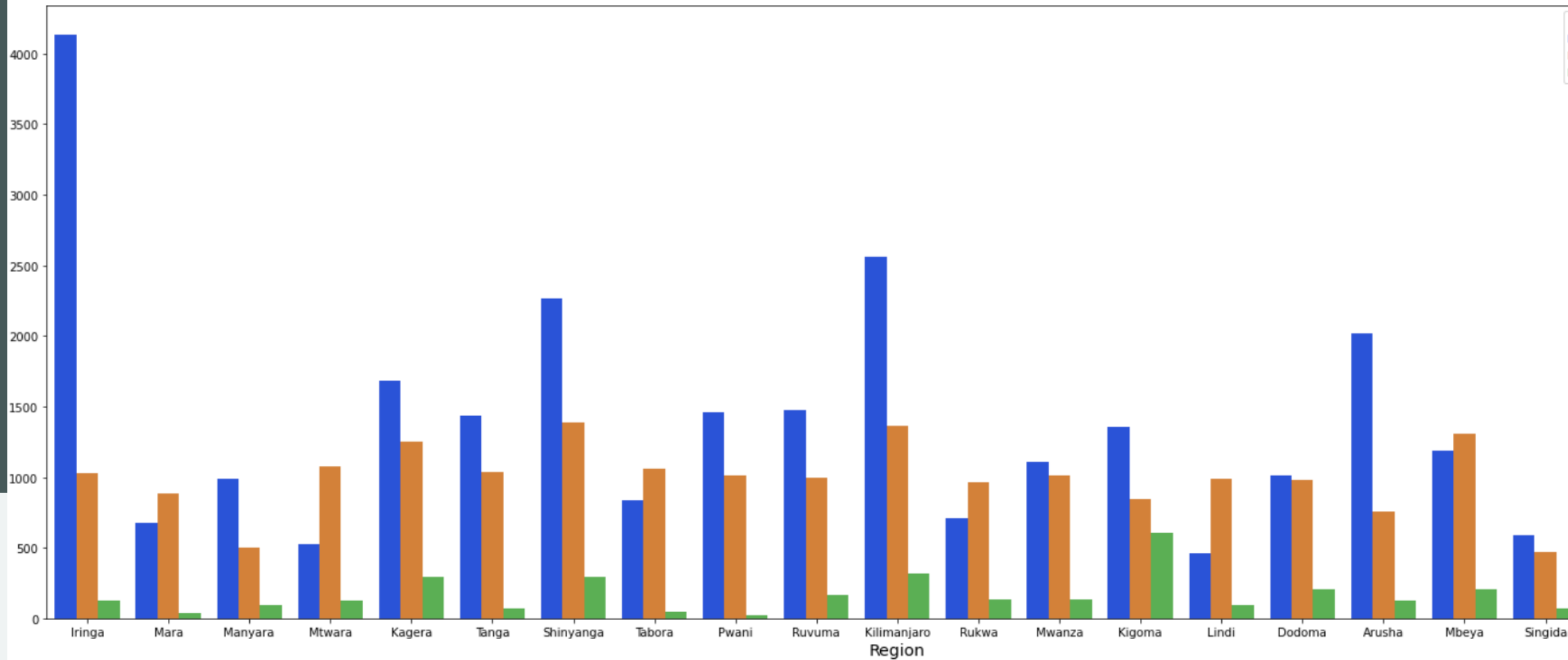


Construction Year of Waterpoint

- As expected, the older the pump installation year, the more non functional pumps there are,
- High rate of functioning pumps after 1988 peaking in 2000s



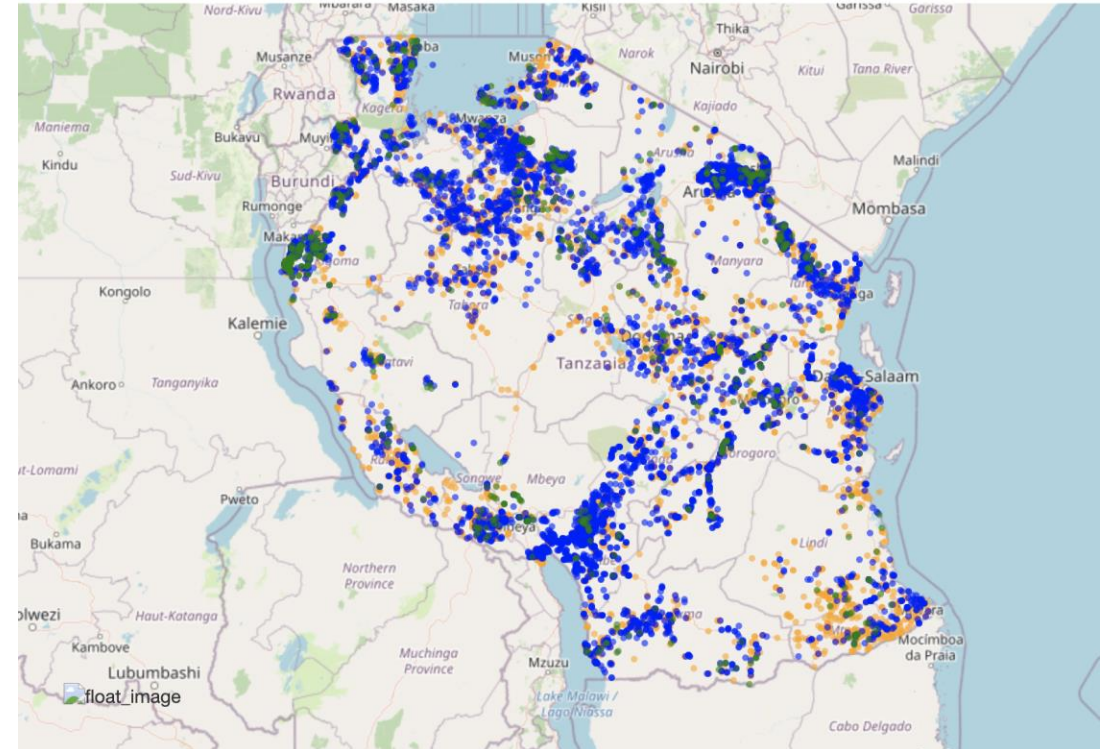
Status of Wells by Region



There are a high number of functional wells in iringa, Shinyanga, Kilimanjara and Arusha.
More non functional wlls than functional in Mar, Mtwara, lindi, and Rukwa

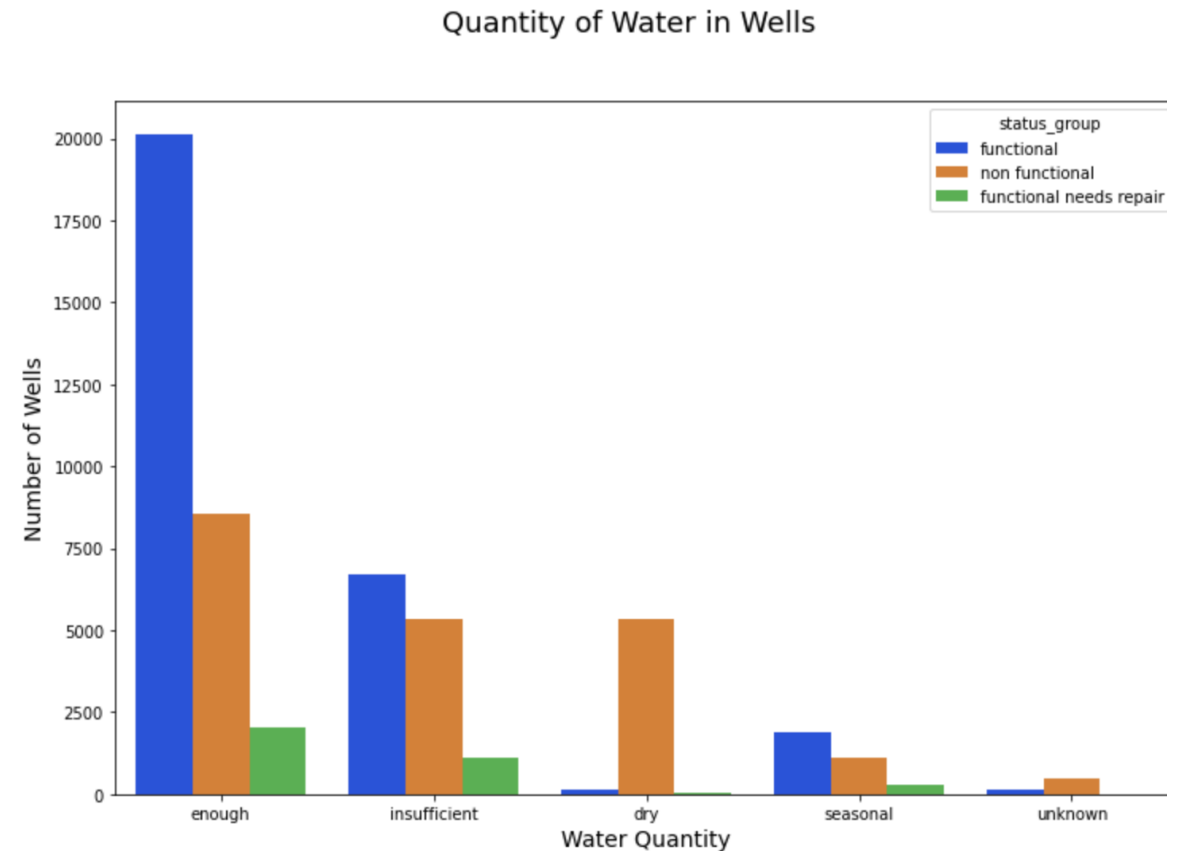
Insights

- High rate of non functional wells in southeast corner of Tanzania in Mtwara and Lindi, as well as Mara and Rukwa
- There is cluster of functional but needs repair wells in Kigoma



Water Quantity

- As expected, high number of non functional wells that are dry
- Over 8.000 waterpoints have enough water, but are non functional.
- 2500 are functional but need repairs



Dry waterpoints have a high chance of being non functional, as expected. If the waterpoint has enough water, there i

Conclusions

- Random Forests was our top performing model, although XG Boost was not far behind.
- The poor performance of the Logistic Regression , KNN, and Decision Tree indicate that the data is not easily separable.
- Our Random Forests model performs with an 87% testing accuracy and precision for the functional class at 86%.

Recommendations

- **Location**
 - Target repairs in areas like Lindi and Mtwara that have a high rate of non functional wells
 - Make repairs to functional wells in Kignma to maximize cost effectiveness
- **Repairs**
 - Prioritize non functional and functional wells which need repair and have enough water
- **Payment**
 - Payment provides incentive and means to keep wells functional
- **Installers**
 - Avoid using installers with a high rate of pump failure

Future Work

Future work for this project involve improving the quality of the data moving forward. Better data trained in our model will improve the predictions. We will also monitor the wells and update the model regularly to continuously improve our strategy.